

[10 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) Government has taken a decision to explore the possibilities of Commodity Barter trade of wheat with SAARC countries or other countries which could supply other commodities in exchange and export of wheat on Government to Government account. Besides the ongoing Open Market Sale Scheme of wheat, FCI has also been authorised to dispose of upto 50 lakh tonnes of wheat in Punjab only at the following rates:

Month	Rate per qtl.
July, 2000 August, 2000 September, 2000	Rs. 70/- Rs. 75/- 800/-

(c) The Stock position of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1.7.2000 as compared to buffer norms was as under:

*(Figures in Lakh tonnes)*

Commodity	Stock as on	Buffer norms	Excess
Wheat	1.7.2000 277.57	as on 1.7.2000 143.00	134.57

(d) Government has taken various steps, as stated above, to liquidate the surplus stocks of wheat.

#### **Direct investment in Food Processing Sector**

2032. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Processing Sector has failed to attract foreign Direct investment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) details of their proposals received and actually implemented with the help of FDI during last years;

(d) out of these how many are 100 per cent export oriented; and

(e) steps proposed by Government to attract more FDI in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) During the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000, 312 Foreign Investment Proposals in food processing sector were approved, envisaging Foreign Investment of Rs. 7044 Crore approximately. Actual implementation details for the five year period are not available. However, 114 projects were implemented during the period 1991 to Dec. 1999 with inflow of foreign investment of over Rs. 2299 crores.

(d) Out of 114 projects implemented, 76 are Export Oriented Units.

(e)(i) Automatic approval for foreign equity up to 100% is available for most of the processed food items, subject to certain conditions.

(ii) Food Processing Industries have been included in the list of priority sector.

(iii) Most of the Processed food items have been exempted from the purview of licensing under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

#### **Scheme for Telecasting Agro-Based Films**

† 2033. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for telecasting the agro based films;

(b) of so, the details thereof and its achievements; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) to (c) Under the Scheme "Information Support Management Information System", short duration video films are being produced on agriculture and allied subjects. Periodically some of the films produced by this Department are telecast on Doordarshan. Recently

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.